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of a considerable stream, called Kaduku by the Maories, entering Martin's Bay. The entrance was concealed from view, seaward, by a long sandspit and a deceptive appearance of breakers, but, within, the river was about a quarter of a mile in width, and the shallowest part of the bar had ten feet of water. Four miles upwards it flowed out of a lake one or two miles in width, and ten or twelve miles in length. After satisfying himself that this might form a harbour, and a good site for a settlement, he proceeded to the head of the lake, and finding there a valley stretching in a southerly direction, he left the yacht and commenced an exploration on foot. He quitted the lake on the 23rd of September, and on the 4th of October arrived at Queenstown, on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, having succeeded in finding a transitable route. The distance from the Kakapo Lake (from which the river Kaduku flows) to the Wakatipu, by the most practicable line, was about 50 miles. Dr. Hector, on arriving at Queenstown, sent men to clear the track he had explored, and proceeded himself to Dunedin to report his discovery to the Superintendent.

The third Paper consisted of—

3. *A Narrative of a Journey along the Western Coast of Middle Island, New Zealand.* By ALBERT WALKER, ESQ.

THIS was an account of a hazardous journey on foot undertaken by the Author and two companions in 1863. They crossed the "Saddle" from Christchurch, and descending the Teramakau, marched along the sea-shore from the mouth of that river as far as the Wanganui. The author concluded by stating his belief that his was the first party of white men who had reached so far as the Wanganui, by travelling along the western shores.

The PRESIDENT reminded the Society of the labours of Dr. Hector in the northern portions of the Rocky Mountains, as the Geologist in Captain Palliser's expedition. He was an admirable surveyor, uniting in his own person the qualities of a good topographer and an excellent geologist. In the paper, extracts from which had just been read, he entered very fully into the causes of the formation of the deep sounds and depressions in New Zealand. He seemed to be of opinion that ice possessed the power of excavating deep basins in hard rocks, so as to form lakes. He could not say that he agreed with Dr. Hector on that point; and were this the Geological instead of the Geographical Society, he should feel obliged to dispute those conclusions. At present he would only reiterate his conviction that with respect to qualifications as a physical geographer, and ability to develop the mineral wealth of what he might call the great Scotch colony of Otago, the chief town of which was called Dunedin after Edinburgh, there did not exist a man more capable of doing justice to the colony than his friend Dr. Hector. The other paper, by Mr.

Walker, gave an account of a walk along the western coast. It was a most difficult and dangerous coast, which had been well surveyed by Captain Richards, the Hydrographer of the Admiralty. It had also been explored on foot, in 1850, by other travellers. Mr. Walker was a young man who intended re-visiting the country, and from what he had already accomplished, they might be sure that he would prove an excellent traveller.

Mr. HARPER, in reference to the last remark in the paper, to the effect that Mr. Walker's was the first party of white men who had ever reached so far, said that his brother, Mr. Leonard Harper, had, years before, reached Titihai Head, which was about sixty miles further down the coast than Mr. Walker had reached. He was the first white man who crossed the "Saddle" from Christchurch to the west coast; and he gave an account of the coast similar to that which had been stated on the present occasion.

Staff-Commander EVANS, R.N., stated that Mr. Brunner, of the New Zealand Colonial Survey Department, was the first who explored the west coast as far as Titihai Head. His remarkable journey, made in 1846-7, down the Buller River and to the southward, would be found recorded in the Journal of the Society for 1850.

Mr. HARPER said he only claimed for his brother, that he was the first who went across the island from the east to the west. He knew that Mr. Brunner was the first who went down south, starting from Nelson Province on the north.

Captain RICHARDS, R.N., said he was associated with the survey of the greater part of this coast some fifteen years since, a survey which was carried out under the direction of the present Admiral Stokes; and, perhaps, no country was ever surveyed more expeditiously, and, at the same time, more efficiently, than New Zealand. In the space of some six or seven years, we had become almost as well acquainted with the greater portion of its coasts as we are with those of our own country; but with that long and inhospitable stretch of seaboard between Milford Haven and Cape Farewell, along which scarcely a sheltered spot exists for a vessel, we were necessarily less perfectly acquainted. It is rarely possible for a boat to land, hence we are the more indebted to the exertions of explorers by land, for our knowledge of the rivers and the details of the coast, than we are to our nautical surveyors. Dr. Hector's discovery of the river and port of Kaduku, would probably be most important for the colony, because, although the coast for 120 miles north of Foveaux Strait was penetrated with deep inlets and sheltered anchorages, yet, from the steep and rugged nature of the lofty mountain ranges, no communication existed through them with the eastern settlements; therefore Dr. Hector's discovery was the more important, and he should have liked to have heard a somewhat more detailed account of the journey. He had had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Hector during his journey across the Rocky Mountains a few years since, and believed him to be a most able and enterprising traveller. The President had spoken of the travellers in the early days of the colony, in 1850. Perhaps few in this country knew anything of the hardships and privations which such men as Heaphy, Brunner, and others, went through while exploring this then utterly unknown west coast of the Middle Island of New Zealand. They may be truly said to have been the pioneers of colonization in this region, and the colony will always owe them a debt of gratitude.

In adjourning the Meeting to the 9th of January, 1865, the President called attention to the beautiful and striking water-colour drawings of the glaciers of New Zealand, sent to the Society by Dr. Haast, and expressed a hope that they might soon be published in chromo-lithography.